



## **BERKSHIRE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE A SAFER SCHOOL, A SAFER YOU**

Our strategy for long term violence prevention offers programming focusing on positive behavior education and social-emotional learning. Programs align with education and professional development training mandates of the Massachusetts bullying prevention law and serve to enhance existing health and wellness education currently available in most schools.

### **STUDENT PROGRAMMING**

#### **Elementary**

*Bullying Prevention: Using Children's Literature to Foster Empathy, Friendship and Respect*  
Presentations engage students in age-appropriate stories encouraging positive behavior. Interactive presentations use role play and creative arts to demonstrate how words and actions can hurt others. *Lessons are grade-specific for Grades K and 1.*

*Student Mentor Internet Safety Program*

Workshop for early learners uses age-appropriate, 3-D activities to teach children how to be safer when using the internet. Student mentors co-present with Clicky, the spokesrobot, to teach children about the importance of internet safety using interactive video and creative arts activities. *Grades K – 2.*

*The Kids on the Block Program on Bullies & School Safety*

Program features life-size puppets which, through the magic of live puppet theater, teach students about bullying, encourage empathy for targets of bullying and provide problem-solving strategies to empower bystanders. *Lessons are grade-specific for Grades 2 and 3.*

*Promoting Positive Behavior & Strategies to Stop Bullying*

The presentation explores the forms of bullying behavior and gives students the tools they need to confidently take action if they experience or witness the behavior online or offline. Group activities and interactive discussions will raise students' awareness of safe and healthy use of communication technology. *Lessons are grade-specific for Grades 4 and 5.*

#### **Middle School**

*Safe & Appropriate Use of Communication Technology*

The presentation raises students' awareness of the both the benefits and risks associated with communication technologies through engaging activities and discussion. The presentation highlights the importance of safe and respectful behavior and provides strategies to empower students to make responsible choices using technology. *Lessons are grade-specific.*

### Digital Generation 2.0: Live Smarter

The presentation focuses on safe and healthy interpersonal behaviors and discusses the impact of bullying and harassment. The presentation challenges students to think about their digital footprint and online choices, examines the consequences and misuse of technology and teaches students what steps to take if they are victimized or witness bullying or cyberbullying.

### Safe & Healthy Relationships

The presentation explores healthy and unhealthy peer-to-peer, family and dating relationships and equips students to recognize and understand the differences between flirting and sexual harassment and teaches students to identify and evaluate specific behaviors that pose risks for themselves and others. Students will have a clearer understanding of personal boundaries and the difference between flirting and sexual harassment. An open discussion delivers strategies and resources to support students in developing and maintaining healthy relationships. The presentation will be tailored to address particular needs and issues of your school population and is offered for same sex groups.

## **High School**

### Digital Generation 2.0: Live Smarter

The presentation promotes dialogue with students about the safe and responsible use of all communication technology and explores potential online vulnerabilities. The program examines the far-reaching, powerful consequences of cyberbullying, sexting and other misuses of technology and the impact online actions may have on future goals.

### Safe & Healthy Relationships

The presentation explores healthy and unhealthy peer-to-peer, family and dating relationships and equips students to recognize and understand the differences among flirting, sexual harassment and abusive behavior and teaches students to identify and evaluate specific behaviors that pose risks for themselves and others. Students will have a clearer understanding of personal boundaries and the difference between flirting and sexual harassment. An open discussion delivers strategies and resources to support students in developing and maintaining healthy relationships. The presentation will be tailored to address particular needs and issues of your school population and is offered for same sex groups.

### Prescription Pills to Heroin: The Opiate Express

A Massachusetts State Trooper with the Berkshire Law Enforcement Task Force, in collaboration with the Berkshire District Attorney's Office Community Outreach and Education Program, will discuss ongoing drug usage and trends in our community and raise students' awareness of the risks associated with drug use and abuse.

## **TEACHER AND STAFF PROGRAMMING**

### Bullying, Cyberbullying, and Your Responsibilities Under the Law

Training addresses the impact of bullying and the collective role of all stakeholders in a school-wide prevention effort. The presentation provides skills to recognize and respond to bullying and offers strategies to address these behaviors, including reporting procedures and intervention

techniques. Training also discusses current information on social media and examines potential social and emotional consequences, legal ramifications, civil liabilities and criminal penalties associated with misuse of technology.

## **PARENT PROGRAMMING**

### *Our Kids Online and Offline: What Every Parent Needs to Know*

The presentation reviews the significant role of parents in supporting school prevention and intervention plans. The training provides information on the dynamics of bullying, recognizing the signs and symptoms that a child may be engaging in bullying behavior or the target of a bully, and how to respond appropriately. The powerful role of the bystander and the importance of changing our culture around the acceptance of bullying will be discussed. The presentation also addresses current communication technologies and how to protect your child's personal information, use of monitoring programs, cyberbullying, social networking sites and online predators and reminds parents of the important role they play in the community-wide bullying prevention effort.

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

### *Bullying Prevention Initiative Resource Lending Library*

An extensive collection of violence prevention books, media, teacher guides, lesson plans and other resources. All of the materials/resources available in our lending library are tied to the standards Grades Pre-Kindergarten to 12.

For more information please contact Carol A. Mulcahy, Director of Community Outreach & Education, at 413-443-5951.